Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 486

CONFIDENTIAL OTTAWA 2895

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SECSTATE PASS DOD DEPT SECDEF ELLSWORTH

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: MILI, CA

SUBJ: CABINET DEFERS CP-140 DECISION, BUT IT LOOKS

LIKE GO

1. SUMMARY: CABINET CONSIDERED CP-140 CONTRACT THIS AFTERNOON JULY 15 AND ORDERED THAT THE RESPONSIBLE MINISTER (GOYER) NEGOTIATE THE INTEREST CHARGES OUT OF IT. GOYER TELLS ME TONIGHT THAT HE HAS REACHED AGREEMENT WITH LOCKHEED FOR THEM TO SWALLOW INTEREST CHARGES IN RETURN FOR AN EARLIER START IN GOC PAYMENTS. SUBJECT TO TRUDEAU'S CONCURRENCE (CABINET RECONSIDERATION NOT RPT NOT NECESSARY) CONTRACT WILL BE SIGNED JULY 21. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO OUR INFORMANTS (SUPPLY AND SERVICES MINISTER GOYER, DEFENSE DEPUTY MINISTER NIXON, AND LOCKHEED REPRESENTATIVES) ONLY STICKING POINT IN CONTRACT WAS INCLUSION OF AN INTEREST ITEM. IN ORDER TO MAKE REVISED CONTRACT CONSISTENT WITH CANADIAN FISCAL FRAMEWORK, CONTRACT PROVIDES FOR LOCKHEED TO LOAN CANADA AGAINST INTEREST UP TO \$50 MILLION DURING LATTER THREE YEARS OF CONTRACT. PREVIOUS POLICY OF CANADIAN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN NOT RPT NOT TO PERMIT INCLUSION OF INTEREST IN MAJOR PROCUREMENT CONTRACTS. THUS CABINET INSTRUCTION TO SERVICES AND SUPPLY MINISTER GOYER WAS CONFIDENTIAL

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"TO GET RID OF THE INTEREST ITEM."

- 3. GOYER REPORTS THAT HE REACHED AGREEMENT WITH LOCKHEED PRESIDENT HAACK TONIGHT AT 2130 IN WHICH LOCKHEED ABSORBS THE INTEREST, AND GOC CONTRACT PAYMENTS BEGIN 3 MONTHS IN ADVANCE. HAACK CONFIRMS.
- 4. IF TRUDEAU AGREES THAT CABINET INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN RESPECTED (NO CONSIDERATION BY FULL CABINET IS REQUIRED NOW), SIGNING WILL BE WEDNESDAY JULY 21.
- 5. COMMENT: CABINET CONSIDERATION OF CP-140 CONTRACT COINCIDED WITH US-CANADA ROW OVER REPUBLIC OF CHINA ROLE IN THE OLYMPICS. DECISION TO ELIMINATE INTEREST CHARGES EVEN AFTER TREASURY BOARD HAD ACCEPTED THEM COULD HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED BY THE OLYMPICS ISSUE. BUT GOYER'S QUICK CONCLUSION OF NEGOTIATIONS SUGGESTS THAT CONTRACT IS FINALLY GOING THROUGH. REMEMBER THAT GOYER WAS THE ENEMY OF THE LRPA CONTRACT. ENDERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: MEETING AGENDA, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, CABINET MEETINGS, INVESTMENT RETURNS, CONTRACTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 16 JUL 1976 Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OTTAWA02895

Document Number: 1976OTTAWA02895 Document Source: CORE Document Unique ID: 00

Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: GS Errors: N/A Film Number: D760274-0211 From: OTTAWA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760750/aaaabrxy.tel Line Count: 80

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Office: ACTION SS Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS Reference: n/a

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: BoyleJA

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 12 APR 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review

04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: CABINET DEFERS CP-140 DECISION, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE GO TAGS: MILI, CA, LOCKHEED To: STATE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006